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Rain and gales to lash Britain

30 January 2002

Heavy rain and high winds are set to return to Britain later this week, the Met Office is warning.

Some very wet weather is likely over the next few days, especially in the west and north, where up to five inches (127 mm) are possible over high ground. Forecasters are predicting gusts of more than 80 m.p.h. across parts of Northern Ireland and north-west Scotland on Friday, with very windy weather in other parts of the country.

Ewen McCallum, Head of Forecasting at the Met Office, said: "The heavy rain we are expecting is bound to affect river levels so we will continue to work with the Environment Agency, which assesses the likelihood of flooding. There is also a risk of some further damage from the high winds later this week."

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